6/1/77

Dear Harold,

The question for Carrico is one of the most important we could possibly ask, notwithstanding the questions which I have surmised you are going to ask him for the specter suit. Carrico never actually claimed personal credit for the idea of administering the drug in his testimony. When Specter asked him why he did it, Carrico replied "It was recalled... (that JFK had an adrenal insufficiency)." Not "I remembered", but "It was recalled." Modesty or evasiveness? Some of the Parkland MD's praised Carrico for his quick thinking, Perry among them. Others said it was Burkley who informed them JFK was an Addisonian. There is, therefore, a legitimate dispute in the record of the doctors' testimonies as to just who was responsible, Carrico or Burkley?

The point is this: (and please keep #3 confidential)

1) Carrico was the first MD to reach JFK

2) Perry arrived later

3) Perry told CBS in 1967 that the hydrocortisone was already being given by the time he got to TR1.

4) Perry made the tracheotomy incision.

Therefore, if the hydrocortisone was already being administered by the time Perry arrived, and if Carrico will confirm that Buckley either supplied him with it or told him to administer it, then we have Dr. George in TR1 when the throat wound was still in its original, undeformed state, and Buckley either knew or had the opportunity to know that the wound was there!!!

Remember, the story of Humes's supposed ignorance of the throat wound until he spoke with Perry by phone may fall if we can clarify Buckley's role as a link between Parkland and Bethesda.

Tifton claims to have a UPI wire copy report filed by Merriman Smith from the hospital in which Smith allegedly reported Buckley's time of arrival at Parkland as 12:52 pm. I haven't seen it. If Tifton is being truthful,

this is the only evidence which could shoot my theory down. Carrico's clarification is therefore of interest.

And, if he does admit it was Burkley who either gave him the drug or told him to administer it, the logical follow-up question is whether Burkley, Specter, the SS, or anyone else leaned on Carrico to judge his testimony on this point. If I am right, my hunch is that Carrico was told it would be an embarrassing admission on the family's part that JFK was Addisonian were it known that Burkley himself ordered the drug, and that Carrico was therefore asked to help out without perjuring himself. It's just plain unnatural for one to use the words "It was recalled" in spoken language.

Call you before you go.

Best,
Roger

P.S. CBS has answered right at the deadline. Analyzing now. They may have given me some ammunition.

P.S.S. I'd be interested in knowing if Tague was ever contacted by CBS. I have no indication that he was.

RE